

PAPERS READ.

SOME NEW SOUTH WALES PLANTS ILLUSTRATED.

BY R. T. BAKER, ASSISTANT CURATOR, TECHNOLOGICAL
MUSEUM, SYDNEY.

No. ii. TARRIETIA ARGYRODENDRON, Benth. ; with a Note on the
Organs of Reproduction.

(Plate v.)

This plant, under the name *Argyrodendron trifoliatum*, g. et sp.n., was first described by Baron von Mueller in the "Fragmenta" (Vol. i., 2; *vide* also Vol. ii., 177). A few years later, in the "Flora Australiensis" (Vol. i., 230), Mr. Bentham referred it to the genus *Tarrietia*, with the specific name which it still bears. At this time, and even as late as the date of the issue of Vol. i. of the "Genera Plantarum" (1862-67), Mr. Bentham had apparently only seen unisexual flowers, for he gives this as one of the generic characters. In his original description Baron von Mueller says: "Flores hermaphroditi vel polygami." Subsequently the Baron subdivided the original species, and described ("Fragmenta," Vol. ix., 42-43) a second species under the name *T. trifolialata*; the two species being distinguished more particularly by the characters of the leaves and the relative breadth of the anthers. In the description of *T. foliolata* the Baron says: "Flores polygami."

I have recently had the opportunity of examining a good series of specimens of *T. argyrodendron* from the Richmond River district; and as, I believe, no figure of this species has hitherto been published, it seems to me a good opportunity of remedying the deficiency. The specimens examined by me, like those described by the Baron, are polygamous; but trees with male and hermaphrodite flowers would seem to be more common than those with male flowers exclusively.

An examination of the hermaphrodite flowers showed that some of the stamens at the base of the ovary were sterile, although in external appearance they resemble the fertile anthers of the staminal column of male flowers on the same tree. The anthers of flowers from trees with exclusively male flowers are somewhat smaller.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. J. H. Maiden, F.L.S., for his kindness in allowing me the use of his herbarium.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE.

Fig. 1.—Part of plant showing inflorescence (nat. size).

Fig. 2.—Male flower (enlarged).

Fig. 3.—Hermaphrodite flower (enlarged).

Fig. 4.—Anthers and pollen (enlarged).

Fig. 5.—Fruit-carpels at an early stage.

Fig. 6.—Samara (nat. size).

Figs. 7-8.—Parts of sepals magnified.